

Tenant House, Irvine Estate  
Irvine, Warren County  
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-527

HABS  
PA  
62-IRV,  
2C.

*Reduced Copies of Measured Drawings*

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
District of Northwestern Pa.

Historic American Buildings Survey  
J. Howard Hicks, District Officer  
Erie, Pennsylvania

TENANT HOUSE, IRVINE ESTATE  
Irvine, Warren County, Pennsylvania

Owner: Miss M. E. I. Newbold

Date of Erection: c.1840

Architect: Dr. W. A. Irvine

Builder: J. M. Halliday

Present Condition: Poor

Materials of Construction: Stone

Additional Data: See data on PA-525

THE IRVINE PROPERTIES  
Irvine, Warren County, Pennsylvania

House C with mention of Houses E and F

House C sets back from the main highway to Warren, Pennsylvania about 400 feet and is reached by a long driveway or lane. It faces the north or north-east. There is a central entrance door with a casement window on each side, and directly over them on the second floor are two other casement windows. As in House A there is a wing at each side of the main building but the top or gable part of the wings in House C are finished in wood, and are quite steep. The gables in the wings are ornamented with two irregular length wooden pilasters near the main part of the house, and have horizontal random width boards.

There is a window located in each wing facing the highway and also two cellar windows directly under the two first floor windows. The corners or quoins are ornamented with cut and uncut sandstone of random widths. A small wooden porch with a shed roof to match the roofs of the wings is over the main entrance. A water table is on the north side of this house, but the stone of the sides of this house seem to be of smaller size and more irregular, but the front is laid up in regular courses, of larger and better stone.

The entrance door at the north, a modern door, has two lower panels with the upper part set with a single light of glass. The main cornice is carried entirely around the central, two story part of the house, and the wings, each have a similar cornice with the returns mitred on frieze and fascia on the side. The cornice is constructed of mouldings and built up with intricate and delicate concave, convex and compound curves, consisting of a combined bed moulding with O.G. and cove mouldings, also moulding near the eaves. The roof is papered with asphalt roofing over wooden shingles.

The south elevation or rear of the house has two casement windows on the first floor and two on the second floor directly above those on the first floor. All windows of this house, except the two smaller ones, have tooled heads. There is also a cellar entrance on the south elevation with a paneled entrance door reached by a flight of 5 steps which are enclosed by stone walls. This seems to be unused, and the stone steps are broken.

On the west elevation of the house near the south corner is an entrance having an adjacent window of single sash, with two lights of glass, placed very close to the doorway. The door of this entrance has a paneled bottom and glass top with 6 lights of glass. The frieze board over this door and window has been cut in an elliptical shape, resembling the porch entrance on House A, but the porch effect ends in the suggestion made by the

THE IRVINE PROPERTIES  
Irvine, Warren County, Pennsylvania

elliptical shape over the entrance and window. The entrance leads to the pantry. This entrance is reached by two wooden steps, somewhat shaky and needing repair. Above and below this small window there are wooden 10 inch boards with battens over joints.

The east side of the house has a similar opening but has been filled in with matched boards. A batten door is located to the south side of the opening, and a small set-in window of one sash, six lights is set alongside of the door. There is a small wooden platform at this door. The door leads into the east wing which is used evidently as a woodshed although the floor is covered with rough flooring. There are two chimneys on the roof, one to the rear of cut stone, one on the east wing of brick with base but no cap.

The main entrance of the house opens into the living room. A door from the living room opens into a bed room in the west wing. A door also opens from this room into the east wing, into what is used as a woodshed. Close to this door in the woodshed is a trap door to the cellar. There is another door on the east side of the living room towards the north which opens into a closet under the stairs, and another door which opens into the kitchen.

The kitchen has the enclosed stairway, which leads to the second floor, entrance to which is located in the north east corner of the room. There are two doors from the kitchen to the pantry located in the west wing, one near the north and one near the south ends of the room, and another door opening from the kitchen into the east wing or woodshed.

The original kitchen fireplace has been removed and a false mantel put in its place. The chimney is carried on the wall. The second floor has three bed rooms and a hall with an open stairwell. The stairwell is protected with a wooden 3" rail and balustrade.

House E of the Irving Houses is located to the south of the fork in the road which leads down to the Irving mansion. The stones of this house seem to have been selected with more care and are smoother. It is built on similar lines to the miller's house. It, too, faces the east or north-east. To the right of the front elevation is a giant white pine tree and to the left is another, standing like sentinals to guard the house.

Another of these houses which will be called F is located on the road to Warren, Pennsylvania near the C House but standing close

THE IRVINE PROPERTIES  
Irvine, Warren County, Pennsylvania

to the road and facing almost directly east as if looking down to Warren. This is also a wing type.

While the Irving family were vividly connected with the early history of several of the north-western counties, today those who are left of this family are content to live quiet uneventful lives among their fertile acres. Perhaps these tenant houses may some day be occupied again with people who will make their mark on the future history of Warren County.

Approved

*Howard Hicks*  
District Officer.  
Jan. 27. 1937.